

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 IO-13 DPW-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /143 W

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FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 120

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E.O. 11652: N/A, DECON 7/25/74.

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN-PRG BILATERALS: 18TH PELNARY SESSION, JULY 25, 1973

1. (SUMMARY) THE LAST PLENARY BEFORE EXPIRATION OF THE 45-DAY "TIME LIMIT" FOR REACHING AGREEMENT ON SVN INTERNAL MATTERS WAS WHOLLY UNPRODUCTIVE. BOTH SIDES FELL BACK ON PREVIOUSLY ISSUED POSITIONS. THE GVN (DEPUTY PRIMIN VIEN) SUBMITTED A DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR SIGNATURE BY JULY 28. SUBSTANTIVE PROVISIONS WERE THOSE OF GVN JUNE 28 PLAN (USDEL JEC PARIS 17915) WITH UP-DATING OF TIMETABLE THE ONLY MODIFICATION. PRG (HIEU) MADE BLISTERING ATTACKS ON PRES THIEU AND GVN. PRESS CONFERENCES WERE UNENLIGHTENING, EXCEPT FOR PRG CLAIMS THAT NINE MORE DIPLOMATIS HAD RECENTLY PRESENTED CREDENTIALS ON PRG "TERRITORY." IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE AUGUST 2. (END SUMMARY)

2. DR. VIEN (GVN) SPOKE FIRST. HE REJECTED THE PRG 22-POINT PROPOSAL ON DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS (USDEL JEC PARIS 19766) AS A MALICIOUS ATTEMPT TO MIRE THE CONFERENCE IN ENDLESS POLEMICS. MOREOVER, GUARANTEE OF FREEDOMS BY THE RVN CONSTITUTION MADE SUCH A PROPOSAL UNNECESSARY. VIEN ACKNOWLEDGED THE EXISTENCE OF GVN RESTRICTIONS ON

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CIVIL LIBERTIES; THESE WERE NECESSARY FOR DEFENSE AGAINST

COMMUNIST VIOLENCE AND HANOI'S INVASION FORCES. HOWEVER, THESE RESTRICTIONS LIMITED "NORMAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY" IN NO WAY.

3. VIEN TRANSMITTED A "DRAFT AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES" OF A SVN POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. THIS WAS A TEXTUAL REDUCTION OF GVN JUNE 28 PROPOSALS. AFTER SIGNATURE OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON JULY 28, THE FOUR COMMISSIONS WOULD MEET FOR A MONTH TO WORK OUT DETAILS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS REACHED. THEN THIS TIMETABLE WOULD COME INTO EFFECT:

AUGUST 28 - REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS ON DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS; FIRST ONE-MONTH PHASE OF MILITARY DEMOBILIZATION BEGINS;

SEPTEMBER 28 - FORMATION OF NCNRC; SECOND ONE-MONTH PHASE OF DEMOBILIZATION BEGINS;

OCTOBER 28 - PROMULGATION OF ELECTION LAW; ORGANIZING OF ELECTIONS AND ELECTION CAMPAIGN BEGIN;

DECEMBER 25 - GENERAL ELECTIONS.

4. IN CLOSING VIEN URGED ANEW THAT THE TWO SIDES WORK "DAY AND NIGHT" TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT BY JULY 28.

5. HIEU (PRG) ATTACKED THE GVN "DICTATORIAL, FASCIST REGIME" AND ITS "LYING AND INSULTING" ATTEMPTS TO REFUTE FOREIGN EXPOSÉS OF THE PENAL AND DETENTION SYSTEM. THE GVN ALONE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATING THE AGREEMENT AND DEADLOCKING THE SVN TALKS. HIEU WAS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF PRES. THIEU'S RECENT REFERENCES TO THE PRG AS "COMMUNIST INFRASTRUCTURE" AND HIS THREAT TO IMPOSE AN ECONOMIC BLOCKADE AGAINST PRG AREAS. THE GVN MUST FIRST MAKE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS A REALITY, AND ONLY THEN COULD THE LA CELLE CONFERENCE MAKE ANY PROGRESS TOWARDS POLITICAL SOLUTIONS FOR SVN.

6. IN POST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCES SAU (PRG) RAISED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TWO MAIN OBJECTIONS TO THE GVN TEXT IN THAT THE GVN WANTED TO PLACE ELECTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF GVN INSTITUTIONS, AND THAT THE GVN RAISED AGAIN THE "SO-CALLED PROBLEM" OF THE NVA. SAU ANNOUNCED THAT AMBASSADORS OF ALBANIA, BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GRUNK, GUINEA, MALI, MONGOLIA, AND ROMANIA HAD RECENTLY PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO THO, "PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS," ON PRG "TERRITORY." THE YUGOSLAV CHARGE HAD ALSO PRESENTED

HIS CREDENTIALS TO MADAME BINH. SAU DECLINED TO ANSWER  
CORRESPONDENTS' QUERIES ABOUT THE PRECISE LOCATION OF  
THESE CEREMONIES.

7. DAN (GVN) SAID THAT DR. VIEN HAD MADE NUMEROUS  
ATTEMPTS TO UNDERTAKE SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PRG  
TODAY: THROUGH THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, BY REQUESTING  
PRIVATE TALKS, EVEN BY INVITING HIEU "TO TAKE A WALK IN  
THE GARDEN." HOWEVER, THE PRG REJECTED ALL THESE  
INITIATIVES AND THE TALKS WERE "COMPLETELY BLOCKED."

8. THE TWO SIDES RECONVENE AUGUST 2.  
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